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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-20 were allowed in the Notice of Allowance entered on 6 June 2009 and 17 September 2009. A statement of reasons for allowance is found in the 6 June 2008 Notice of Allowance.

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submissions filed on 17 December 2009 have been entered.

Claims 1-20 are allowed.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 17 December 2009 were filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by the examiner.
2. Several citations have been lined through because those citations do not comply with 37 CFR 1.98. Several USPTO Office Actions were submitted with no apparent mail date shown in the document. Several citations appear to contain errors. Several citations were duplicates.

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Reasons for Allowance

3. A statement of reasons for allowance of claims 1-20 is found in the 6 June 2008 Notice of Allowance.

Conclusion

References considered relevant but not applied are cited on the attached form PTO-892.

US Patent No. 5,442,772 to Childs et al. discloses a logic simulator for simulating a circuit including a synchronized breakpoint feature. A host broadcasts a breakpoint time to each simulating node. (Childs, abstract).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Proctor whose telephone number is (571) 272-3713. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am-4:30 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Rodriguez can be reached at (571) 272-3753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR

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or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jason Proctor/
Primary Examiner
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